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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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21
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-06

SAB-01 SAM-01 IO-10 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00

STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 /106 W
---------- 026045
R 030500Z JUN 75
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 551

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7272

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR EAID US JA XM
SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS WITH JAPAN ON LATIN AMERICA

1. I MET AGAIN WITH DATE ON MONDAY. ON IDB, HE SAID TOKYO NOW UNDERSTANDS THE LAMENTABLE RESOLUTION ENACTED IN SANTO DOMINGO. DATE AGREES THAT THERE WAS NO REASON TO POSTPONE SUBMISSION TO THE DIET OF JAPAN'S MEMBERSHIP. WE MAY TOUCH BASE FROM TIME TO TIME WITH NISHEDA IN THE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON FOR PROGRESS REPORTS.

2. ON CUBA, HE RAISED THE QUESTION OF JAPANESE IMPORTS OF NICKEL. THE JAPANESE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY HAD EVIDENTLY DISCOURAGED SUCH TRANSACTIONS TWO YEARS AGO, AT THE SUGGESTION OF OUR GOVERNMENT. NOW, HOWEVER, DATE REPORTED THAT THE PUNTATIVE PRIVATE JAPANESE IMPORTERS HAD DISCOVERED THAT THE FRENCH AND ITALIANS WERE IMPORTING CUBAN NICKEL ORE WITH IMPUNITY. I FUDGED BY SUGGESTING HE EXPLORE THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE PROPOSED TRANSACTION AND LET US KNOW THE DETAILS. WE MIGHT AGAIN FOLLOW THROUGH WITH

SOMETHING MORE DEFINITE THROUGH NESHIDA.

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3. WE HAD AN EXTENDED DISCUSSION ON PANAMA. THE PROBLEM CAME

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CLEARER ON BOTH SIDES. ON HIS, HE EXPLAINED THE CONCERN THE JAPANESE EXPRESSED LAST WEEK. IT WAS AN APPREHENSION THAT WE WERE GOING TO INVOLVE THEM SOMEHOW IN GUARANTEEING THE SECURITY OF THE CANAL. I EXPLAINED THAT THE SECURITY OF THE CANAL WOULD BE ENTIRELY A QUESTION FOR PANAMA AND THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE NEW TREATY. HE WAS VASTLY RELIEVED. FOR OUR SIDE, I OUTLINED AGAIN THE STRUCTURE OF THE AGREEMENT WE WERE CONTEMPLATING, EXPLAINED THAT THE TERM WAS NOT YET NEGOTIATED BUT THAT THE JAPANESE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT, WHEN AND IF THE CONTEMPLATED TREATY IS IN EFFECT, THEY COULD LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN THE CANAL, ITS TOLLS AND ITS OPERATION WERE ESSENTIALLY PANAMANIAN MATTERS. HE UNDERSTOOD. I WENT ON TO DISCUSS OUR DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. HE UNDERSTOOD THOSE TOO, AND VOLUNTEERED THAT THE GOJ WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE A HELPFUL STATEMENT WHEN THE TIME IS RIPE. AGAIN, NISHIDA CAN BE OUR POINT MAN.

4. WE SETTLED ON THE FIRST OR SECOND WEEK IN APRIL FOR THE NEXT SESSION OF TALKS.
HODGSON

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